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done at a lower rate than 4 per cent, and for this reason the not very creditable purpose of playing into the hands of a clique of speculators in Wall street is thought to be at the bottom of Wagon's bill to fund the indebtedness maturing in 1880 and 1881 in bonds bearing only 3 1/2 per cent. Secretary SHERMAN is confident that bonds to the amount of nearly \$800,000,000 could not possibly be sold during the next two years at so low a rate of interest as 3 1/2 per cent, and it really does look as if the wily schemer who heads the Ways and Means Committee were more interested in keeping up the present premium on 4 per cents than in reducing the interest-bearing debt.

The produce markets in this city were again active and higher yesterday, with more doing in provisions than ever, and rather less activity in grain. The following little table shows the prices of yesterday on a few leading articles, as compared with the lowest of the year in January, and the lowest of the autumn in August:

	Lowest.	August.	Yesterday.
Wheat	97 1/2	97 3/4	97 3/4
Barley	5 1/2	5 3/4	5 3/4
Oats	2 1/2	2 3/4	2 3/4
Hay	12 1/2	12 3/4	12 3/4
Corn	29 1/2	29 3/4	29 3/4
Butter	19 1/2	19 3/4	19 3/4
Eggs	21 1/2	21 3/4	21 3/4

This is an average advance of about 51 per cent since August; or 13 per cent per month.

There has been a glorious Democratic victory in Maryland. Last week, in place of the usual Republican majority of 2,500 to 2,800, a Democratic majority of 2,300 to 2,500 was returned. The explanation of this marked change in political sentiment is simple and familiar. A few days before the election a band of Democratic bulldozers circled around the negroes of the parish, hanging and whipping those who were at all active in the Republican cause. This proceeding made Republicans scarce on election-day, but the stealing of the ballot-boxes and the stuffing of them with Democratic votes completed the work, and gave a clear Democratic majority of 2,300. The same plan as to ballot-boxes was successfully employed in other parts of the State, and Louisiana continues "solid."

According to a great French diplomat, President HAYES and Secretary SHERMAN have learned the highest art of statesmanship,—to use language to conceal their ideas. Of these gentlemen failed to express themselves in their recent utterances for the public on the financial question in a way to be understood. The President has found it necessary to "explain" certain portions of his message, and SHERMAN is hedging. But then it is the misfortune of great men to be misunderstood. There is our Czar, for example, who made a great speech of welcome on the occasion of Gen. Grant's visit here, who has been mistaken by all the critics to this day, and who will pass into literature as the puzzle of the nineteenth century. HAYES and SHERMAN are not alone in the art of mystifying the average intellect.

Very general attention is being paid to one of Mr. Frank Wagon's bills for amending the tariff, which proposed to stamp from duty all works of art imported for scientific purposes by any State or Territory, or by any educational, scientific, or art corporation, provided that no such article was intended for exhibition or sale. Undoubtedly Mr. Wagon's bill was designed in the interests of art, but the restrictions which it imposes falls to relieve art in this country from one of its principal burdens. There is no way in which art-education is so easily diffused as by the exhibition of pictures and statues in galleries or popular collections. Mr. Wagon's bill continues to make art a luxury, and so long as it is a luxury the knowledge and appreciation of it must be confined to the few. When galleries are opened freely to the people, and works of art can come here without restrictions of any sort, a very general advance in this department of knowledge may be expected.

THE NEW CURRENCY AGITATION.

The best evidence of the danger threatened to party lines by a renewal of the currency agitation may be found in the circumstance that, thus far, two leading Democrats in Congress have professed a quasi support to the views advanced by the President and Secretary SHERMAN, while two leading Republicans have openly antagonized these views in formal resolutions submitted to Congress. Mr. HAYES in the Senate and Mr. HAYES in the House seek to lead their Democratic friends in a movement for the repeal of the legal-tender function now attached to the Government notes, but to make these notes receivable for all public dues except duties on imports. On the other hand, Mr. TRAVIS in the Senate and Mr. FORT in the House have introduced resolutions declaring that Congress should be advised to reject the repeal of the legal-tender property, and to amend every change in the present status of the currency. No further illustration is needed of the fact that the recommendations of the President and the Secretary of the Treasury will not commit the Republican party to their views, nor furnish the Democratic party with an available issue. No other circumstance could afford a better warning to avoid the confusion and complication likely to arise in both parties from the reopening of the currency question in any shape.

The consideration of party warfare would not justify an avoidance of any new currency measure demanded by the welfare of the country. But there is no such emergency. On the contrary, the revival of business throughout the country, the admirable working of resumption on the present basis, the universal confidence in the present system, and the uniformity and stability of all the currency in circulation, all demand from Congress the policy of non-interference. The present indication is that the Republicans have had a livelier apprehension of this fact than the Democrats, and Mr. TRAVIS's remark the other day was premature, when he said that the Executive suggestions would make the Republicans aggressive in currency agitation henceforth, and enable the Democrats to occupy a passive and non-committal position. The action taken respectively by the Democratic Senator BAYARD and Representative HAYES, on the one side, and the Republican Senator TRAVIS and Representative FORT, on the other side, has reversed the classification which Mr. TRAVIS hastened to make.

It is not improbable that Senator BAYARD's resolution was suggested by his desire to gain applause in New York. It is upon the influence of New York City that his chance for the Presidential nomination turns, and Wall street was quick to take up the more extreme financial views advanced by President HAYES and Secretary SHERMAN. BAYARD's project is a sort of compromise in proposing that the greenbacks shall be directed to their legal-tender function, but shall be kept in circulation. He has probably persuaded

himself that this course will satisfy Wall street without arousing any special hostility in the West; but he will discover that he has failed in that estimate. Wall street capitalists will not be satisfied with any course that shall not make money scarce and dear; it was for this that they contended for the absolute cancellation of the greenbacks and a reversion to the single gold basis, and it is with the same end in view that they approve the Executive recommendations. Senator BAYARD's plan will not achieve the Wall street purpose, while it is certain to excite distrust among Southern and Western Democrats.

What is to be gained by declaring at the present time that greenbacks shall no longer be legal-tender? Such a declaration would not now affect their current value. The only practical result would be to require thereafter that the National banks redeem their notes in coin. Are the banks particularly anxious to assume this responsibility? If they are, a simpler way to reach that result will be through legislation specifically imposing such a condition upon them. A bill has already been proposed which requires them to keep one-half their reserves in coin, and that will be a wiser preparation for the ultimate redemption for banknotes than by a sudden and general decree. The time may come, sooner or later, when our surplus stock of precious metals will be drawn abroad to meet a reverse of the present balance of trade. That change might be followed by a run on the National banks to redeem their notes in coin, if such were the condition of their issues; such a run might drive the banks into a suspension, as has occurred more than once before in this country. In any possible emergency of this kind, it is a good deal safer for the country to have a stock of legal-tender money, sustained by an actual coin reserve in the Treasury vaults, than to give risk the danger of suspension and the evils inseparable from it. The present legal-tender character of the United States notes works no injury to any honest interest or any honest man, while it is a protection against the danger of bank suspensions and commercial distresses. The greenbacks would certainly be no better nor more serviceable if deprived of the legal-tender function, while, as security for the future against panic, that function is one that should be conserved until there shall be a sufficient legal or commercial reason for abandoning it.

The common sense of the American people, which is always a safe guide for Congress, calls for non-interference with the present currency system. Both President HAYES and Secretary SHERMAN have recognized this from the reception of their views as expressed in the former's message and the latter's report. The President has already taken occasion to point out that he did not intend to recommend the retirement of the greenbacks (as, indeed, he did not intend to recommend a coin currency), and that such a course should not be taken now if regarded as unwise or impolitic for any good reason. The President's intention was probably to place himself on record as favoring the ultimate extinction of legal-tender Government notes, and he did not reflect that the present time is inopportune to urge that view. Secretary SHERMAN is now, as before, positively in favor of maintaining a system of Government notes redeemable in coin, and suggested the repeal of their legal-tender character partly in anticipation of a Supreme Court decision. He has placed all other considerations aside, and he did not reflect that the present time is inopportune to urge that view. Secretary SHERMAN is now, as before, positively in favor of maintaining a system of Government notes redeemable in coin, and suggested the repeal of their legal-tender character partly in anticipation of a Supreme Court decision. He has placed all other considerations aside, and he did not reflect that the present time is inopportune to urge that view.

AN IMPORTANT BILL.

There is a bill pending in the Lower House of Congress, introduced by the Hon. WILLIAM ALDRICH, of this city, which embodies certain slight amendments of existing statutes on the subject of imports from the interior. This bill is so simple that no member should fail to understand its purpose, and so just that it ought to secure the hearty support of every member of Congress. In the first place, existing statutes exempt from the privilege of transportation in bond to the interior wines, distilled spirits, perishable or explosive articles, and articles in bulk. It must be presumed that the law-makers of 1870 had some reason for incorporating this prohibition in the statute, but what it was is not apparent now. There may have been a theory that wines and liquors would be especially liable to loss from water or theft, that explosive articles might go up like a rocket, that perishable goods might utterly decay on the road from New York to Chicago in a couple of days, after having survived an ocean passage of weeks, and so entail a loss of revenue. There seems to be no conceivable reason why pig-iron and salt (articles in bulk) should have been placed in the list of prohibited articles any more than dry goods or other articles. At all events, the experience of nine years has demonstrated the imprudence of each and all of these exemptions. In a business involving many millions of dollars' worth of merchandise transported into the interior in bond, covering a period of nine years, the Government has never lost a dollar of revenue by reason of the loss of merchandise in inland transit. Accordingly the pending bill provides for the repeal of the exemption clause of the statute.

Existing statutes require that each and every importer of merchandise destined for the interior shall give a bond in a penal sum of at least double the invoice value of the merchandise to be transported, with duties added, and that the transportation companies which receive the merchandise shall be held responsible to the United States as common carriers, and in addition give such bond as the Secretary of the Treasury may require, for the safe delivery thereof to the Collector of the interior port. As before remarked, the Government has never, in nine years, lost a dollar of revenue through the L. T. Bond act. In every case of loss the transportation company has not only paid the importer for the goods lost, but has paid the full amount of duty demanded by the Government upon the lost goods. The pending bill provides for the repeal of the clause requiring the importer to give bond to the Government for the safe transportation of his merchandise. But it provides that no transportation company shall be permitted to receive and carry such merchandise except upon the designation of the Secretary of the Treasury; and, further, that such company "shall become bound to the United States in bonds of such form and amount

and with such conditions," etc., as the Secretary of the Treasury shall require. (Secs. 2,995 and 2,996 of the Revised Statutes provide for the establishment of bonded warehouses at the ports of original entry, for the reception, exclusively, of such merchandise intended for immediate transportation to the interior in bond as it shall be impracticable to ship, and, further, that the transference of such merchandise to such warehouses shall deprive it forever of the privileges of transportation in bond,—that is to say, subject to its seizure by the Collector as undeclared and deposited in public stores. As the theory of the law is that all merchandise intended for interior ports shall be immediately delivered to the proper bonded transportation companies, the pending bill repeals the warehouse and detention provisions, and provides simply that "Merchandise so destined for immediate transportation shall be transferred, under proper supervision, directly from the importing vessel to the car, vessel, or vehicle in which the same is to be transported to its final destination." This is all there is of the bill. The intent of it is to remove vexatious hindrances to the free course of foreign trade and commerce, and to place the interior simply that to be placed on an equal footing with those of the seaboard. They have served longer than Jacob served for RABEEL. For nine years they have submitted to unjust discriminations against their business. They ask now to be elevated to an equality of commercial rights with their rivals of the East. There is a provision of the Constitution which the existing statutes contravene,—namely, that which provides that "no preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one State over those of another." The law which the pending bill proposes to modify is in conflict with the constitutional provision cited, and ought to be modified precisely as proposed. The bill embodies a simple act of justice, and should command the hearty support of every lover of justice East, West, North, and South. But especially should it command the undivided support of the Western and Southern delegations in both Houses of Congress. It proposes to right an existing wrong against every merchant and businessman in the Western and Southern States, and to place all other citizens of the West the law, as it stands, injures Chicago. Remove the unjust restrictions which it imposes upon the foreign trade of this city, and the import business of Chicago will bound forward like a giant released from cruel bonds. Let our Senators and Representatives make a note of this fact.

THE NEW ATTEMPT ON THE Czar's LIFE.

Nihilism has resumed its mad efforts to slay the Czar of Russia, and, as usual, has characterized its operations by blundering and failure. The plot was a very stupid one, and, even if it had wrecked the train upon which he was a passenger, there is no certainty that he would have been injured. The would-be assassin occupied a house near the railroad, in the suburbs of Moscow, and dug a passage-way or tunnel from his cellar to the roadbed of the railroad, along which was laid a train of powder connecting with a barrel of it under the road over which the Imperial train must pass, which was to be fired by a battery in the house. The infernal machine operated with success, making a gap in the road-bed nearly five feet deep, sixteen feet long, and eighteen feet broad, but fortunately the Imperial baggage train was wrecked instead of the passenger train, upon which the Czar had arrived safely in Moscow half an hour previous, and no one was injured, though eight carriages were wrecked and one of them blown to atoms.

THE Czar's Life.

The Czar has enjoyed more of the sanguinary attentions of bungling assassins than any of his contemporaries. Ex-Queen ISABELLA of Spain, VICTORIA of England, and AMALIA of Greece, have once or twice been exposed to danger. FRANCIS JOSEPH of Austria, in 1855, was wounded while walking on the ramparts in Vienna by a Hungarian tailor. The Emperor of Germany was shot at once in 1861 and twice in 1878, but the fourth attempt on his life failed. The only ruler of our times who can beat his record was NAPOLEON III., who was fired at with revolvers and fulminating bombs no less than six times. The first attack was made upon the Czar April 6, 1866, by a Pole named DIMITRI KARAKOFF, but the assassination was foiled by a peasant, who was enabled for his bravery. The second was made in 1867 by a Pole named DEMONOWSKY, during the Paris Exposition, at a review in the Bois de Boulogne. The third was made April 14, 1878, and immediately followed the horrible massacre of Russian students in the school they had made through which to escape from the cruelties practiced upon them in the Kief prison. While walking near the palace in St. Petersburg, the Czar was fired upon five times by SOLZGIEVER, a retired employe from the Department of the Minister of Finance, but escaped through the bungling marksmanship of the villain. Upon this occasion, as now, the Czar, on receiving the congratulations of the people, attributed his rescue to the interposition of Divine Providence. While this testifies very eloquently to the Czar's feeling of personal responsibility to God, it at the same time is quite as remarkable and certainly very fortunate that all his would-be assassins have been wretched bunglers and poor marksmen. Had SHERMAN been such a marksman as WILLIAM BOOTH, for instance, the Czar would have had no opportunity to receive congratulations, or to ascribe his escape to any cause.

The year 1879 has been fruitful in the work of the nihilist assassins. Twice they have attempted the Czar's life. In February YVES SASSERMAN killed the Chief of Police of St. Petersburg, and another revolutionist slew KRAVCHENKO, the Governor of Kharkoff, an infamous monster. In March, Gen. VON DREITZEL, the Chief of Gendarmes at St. Petersburg, was shot at, and in April the President of the Court-Martial at Kharkoff narrowly escaped death. Numerous minor functionaries were fired at without effect, however, and hundreds of suspected conspirators were sent to the mines of Siberia or to the various military prisons in Eastern Russia. Assassination as an agency of reform on the one hand was met by military rigor and despotic harshness on the other, and every attempt to employ assassination as an agency by the revolutionists has been met with an increase of that rigor and harshness. The revolution first showed itself in 1825, in the reign of NICHOLAS, and in the form of a demand for a Constitution. How it has progressed since those days was thus described by a correspondent of the Cologne Gazette just before the third attempt on the Czar's life:

"Since the year 1825, when revolution was actually abolished, it increased from day to day, and has spread itself without ceasing to spread itself, and without assuming a fixed and definite shape. But at length, last year, it came forth from its secret hiding-place, and in a terrible form. At that time there appeared in all the European cities of the Empire publications of an insurrectionary character, denouncing the abuses of the despotic and deplorable condition, and denouncing the brutal treatment of the people. Their removal from the entourage of the Emperor was demanded, falling which a sanguinary revenge was threatened. From the outset the Russian revolutionists declared that they did not intend any injury to the Czar. It was the Court-Committee they were aiming at,—that which separates the ruler from his people, and through which lay the only way to the monarch; the they declared must be broken down, if not in a peaceful way, then by force. They further demanded the suppression of the Ministry of the Interior, the abolition of corporal punishment with the stick in prisons, better treatment of political prisoners, reform in the courts of justice, and changes in the procedure in preliminary examinations under the secret police."

However much nihilism may disclaim assassination as one of its agencies, it is evident from the address of the Czar to the people of Moscow that he holds it responsible. In that address he says: "Anxious only for the welfare of Providence, I have placed myself in the hands of Providence, and I appeal therefore to you and to all right-minded people to aid me in the eradication of this evil which has taken root in Russia. There are significant words, and they mean the renewal of rigorous measures against the revolutionists. We may expect to hear of more arrests, banishments, and executions, to be followed in turn by more attempts at assassination. There is no pity or consideration on either side. It is a gigantic struggle between a despotic Government and an enemy working in the dark, the result of which will be that many innocent persons must suffer from the blind rage of the Government."

THE SHERMAN "BOOM."

The SHERMAN "boom" seems to be gaining strength among the Democratic politicians who are assembled at Washington. It is based upon the assumption that SHERMAN can carry New York State, which is indispensable to the Democratic program; but it seems to be indifferent to two very important considerations,—viz., (1) That SHERMAN, through his next friend, Senator KENNEDY, continues to run on the same old circumstances, which determination he will be strengthened by the recollection of his former defeat when the nomination was forced upon him against his better judgment; and (2) that the National system of supervision, which the Democrats have made such desperate but futile efforts to repeal, will probably prevent a repetition of the frauds whereby New York was carried for SHERMAN in 1868. Nevertheless there seems to be a very general disposition among the Democrats of the South to turn to SHERMAN as a means for avoiding the issue of the election. They will probably be enlarged by Senator BAYARD's fine pose in leading the movement for repealing the legal-tender quality of the greenbacks. That action will cost BAYARD many friends among the Western and Southern Democrats, who will readily go over to SHERMAN or any other man acceptable to New York, except TRAVIS. As all the Democratic Presidential programs start out by conceding the first place on the ticket to New York, so all but TRAVIS seem to set apart the second place for the same old friend, SHERMAN. The available material for the second place has been enlarged by taking in Messrs. McDONALD and ENGLISH, as well as Mr. HENDRICKS, among the possibilities. Mr. HENDRICKS continues to protest so unreasonably against being again relegated to the second place that he has given cause to think that he will consent this time, as he did last time under similar circumstances; indeed, it is already whispered among the SHERMAN men that HENDRICKS will run second place, though he would not with TRAVIS. Mr. ENGLISH, of Indiana (who has a rival of the same name in Connecticut), was for many years a member of Congress, and is now a prominent business-man. He says himself that he knows how unimportant the office of Vice-President really is, and intimates that, at his age, he would rather have a seat in the Senate, but is not a candidate for either place. Senator McDONALD laughs modestly at the suggestion that he is the proper man for the second place on the Democratic ticket, and he is so staunch a friend to HENDRICKS that he will probably not permit his friends to urge his own claims. In the meantime, the conviction is growing that the Republicans will carry both New York and Indiana, and before the time for nominating shall come around, the Democrats may find it necessary to change their tactics altogether.

SHALL WE HAVE A COIN CURRENCY?

The Cincinnati Commercial is advocating the minting by the Government of small gold coins, excepting that if they be made useful they will come into general use. There is no possible objection to the coining of half-eagles, but there is only a small proportion of the gold coined at the mints which is coined on account of the United States. The gold coined on private account is mainly put into the form of double-eagles, and much of it is retained in the shape of bars. Still the mints might be employed in producing the \$5 and \$10 coins, but that they will ever come into universal use so long as there are paper notes of such value is not to be expected. Even when there was no silver in circulation the number of "one" and "two" dollar bills in circulation was comparatively small. The total amount of fractional paper currency actually in circulation was probably never greater than twenty-five millions of dollars. In other countries a metallic currency is kept in use by the prohibition of paper money of small denominations. All our large transactions are performed by bank checks, bills of exchange, or paper money. As our bank-notes and our greenbacks have an equal value with gold, they continue to be always commended them in preference to either gold or silver coin, so long as they can be had. This preference for paper, which forces the silver to remain in use in the Treasury, has an equal effect upon the gold coin, which seeks a place of deposit, leaving the more portable paper in general use.

Silver and gold coin, therefore, will not secure a general circulation so long as the paper is in circulation and easily to be had. The great popular objection to the withdrawal of the notes of small denominations is the inability to make remittances of small sums by mail, except in paper. There are millions of people in the United States regular subscribers to newspapers of every kind, political, religious, agricultural, scientific, and literary; also to magazines and periodicals of great variety. There is also a large business done in the purchase of articles to be forwarded by mail. The remittances in these cases are generally small, ranging from one to three dollars, and paper money of small denominations is of indispensable convenience for this purpose. Fractions of dollars are sent in the form of postage-stamps. Coins are useless for this purpose, and the

charge for postal orders is costly and the process cumbersome. The Commercial with great justice insists that a cheap postal-order system is an essential part of the money machinery of a special-handling people. This is a necessity. The present system is too costly for cases of small remittances. A cheap system whereby an order for five dollars, or a less sum, may be remitted, including postage, for five or six cents, would simplify the public with such a substitute for small bills as to remove altogether the necessity which now exists for the latter, and at the same time give greater security to the persons making the remittances. If the circulation of bank-notes were limited to those of ten dollars and upwards, and of greenbacks to five dollars and upwards, then the gold five and ten dollar pieces and the silver dollars would of necessity enter into general use in all transactions. Mr. BURMAN, the Director of the Mint, gives as the best estimate of the gold and silver in circulation in European countries the following figures: Great Britain, \$618,000,000 gold coin, \$30,375,000 silver coin, \$20,000,000 of a subsidiary character; total specie circulation, \$1,118,000,000; Germany, \$338,168,462 of gold and \$214,939,957 of silver, or a total specie circulation of \$553,108,419; France, gold, \$466,755,000; silver, \$435,844,850.

It will be seen that the capacity to absorb silver currency is largely measured by the absence of paper money of small denominations. Even in Holland, where the single gold standard is in force, the amount of silver in circulation is about double that of the gold. If Congress take any action whatever in the matter of amending the currency laws, it should in the first instance provide for a cheap money-order system, by which sums of five dollars and less may be remitted at a total charge of not more than five cents, and then the main use for paper money of small denominations ceasing to exist, the small gold coins and the silver dollars will become in this country, as in all others, the general currency of the people.

An official report has at length been made of the investigation into the management of the Milwaukee House of Correction, concerning which scandal considerable has already been made in the public prints. The Committee of the Board of Supervisors have submitted their report, which declares that Superintendent HAYES has been guilty of violating nearly every rule adopted for the regulation of the prison, and recommends his instant dismissal. HAYES has taken the hint and resigned, and his successor has already been selected. As to the food for the prisoners, which the Committee agree that it was not generally as bad as some of the convicts swore it was, there were times when portions of it were utterly unfit for any human being. But the cruel and utterly inhuman punishment inflicted on the helpless inmates by the ignorant and brutal keepers, from the Superintendent down to the lowest watchman in this den of the Devil. The Committee furnish this testimony, taken during the investigation, and embody it in their report, as a specimen of the way in which prisoners are reformed in this "House of Correction."

"CARL KETTERLE says that one day he and struck him, and knocked him down; that after he got up he again knocked him down. We went there, and he was waiting in front of him when he struck me twice, once on each side of the head, from which I fell, and was stunned by the blow. Was then 'put in the dark cell.' Owing to the fact that I was a foreigner, and did not know the language, I was taken to the 'dark cell' and was there for two days. There was a silly fellow (prisoner), and I saw TRAVIS and DALEY put a cross on him to make him a sign. I saw KENNEDY a crippled old man down-stairs because he did not work fast enough."

"CHARLES EDWARDS says he saw KENNEDY strike a prisoner named CALDWELL in the face. The prisoner said to KENNEDY not to strike him. KENNEDY said: 'Go on, you God damn pickpocket. I will strike you.' 'KENNEDY, he says, 'struck me twice, but did not touch me. I saw BILL DIMOND strike a person named BAKER,—this was under KENNEDY,—struck him over the head with a chair-rack, and struck him after he was down. He was a two or three times under HAYES. I have been paged by HAYES."

"JOHN BATES testifies that when he took one of the dark cell KENNEDY struck me twice. Saw him strike a prisoner named MORAN on the back with his cane. He saw several persons kicked and struck by BAKER. Saw the guard several

THE TRIBUNE WEATHER-MAP.

From Observations Made by the Signal Service, U. S. A., at 11 P. M., Washington Mean Time, Dec. 4, 1878.

Observations taken at the same moment of time at all stations.

LOCAL OBSERVATIONS.

Time.	Bar.	Th. Hs.	Wind.	Vol.	Dir.	Weather.	Time.	Bar.	Th. Hs.	Wind.	Vol.	Dir.	Weather.
7:10 A. M.	30.246	49	W.	N. E.	4	Cloudy.	3:30 P. M.	30.135	48	S. E.	12	—	Cloudy.
8:10 A. M.	30.244	49	W.	N. E.	4	Cloudy.	4:30 P. M.	30.133	48	S. E.	12	—	Cloudy.
9:10 A. M.	30.242	49	W.	N. E.	4	Cloudy.	5:30 P. M.	30.131	48	S. E.	12	—	Cloudy.
10:10 A. M.	30.240	49	W.	N. E.	4	Cloudy.	6:30 P. M.	30.129	48	S. E.	12	—	Cloudy.

Maximum, 49; minimum, 37.

INDICATIONS.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 5.—1. a. m.—Indications for Tennessee, the Ohio Valley, and Lake region, falling and low barometer, increasing south to east wind, probably to gales in the least district, warmer, threatening and rainy weather, partly as snow in the northern portion of the last district, followed over the Upper Lakes and western portion of the first district by rising barometer and cold northerly winds.

For the Upper Mississippi and Lower Missouri Valleys, rising, preceded in the former by falling barometer, colder northerly winds and rainy weather, partly as snow in northern portions, followed by partly cloudy weather, and in the upper portion of the latter by falling barometer, with winds shifting to warmer southerly.

Cautionary signals continue at Duluth, Houghton, Marquette, Escanaba, Milwaukee, Section 8, Fort Huachuca, Detroit, Toledo, Sandusky, Cleveland, Section 8, Erie, and Buffalo.

turn a handsome set of harness, ornamented with gold, and lacquered.

Herman Verlin is playing David Garrick in "Doctor Daves," at the London Adelphi, while the piece has been revived in connection with "Nicholas Nickleby."

John E. Owens has revived his Australian fanny, and gives the steamer of Dec. 22 as the National Theatre, Washington, that with the play of "Richelieu" was underlined. A prominent Secretary, wishing to familiarize himself with the history of the Revolution, has been the Librarian of Congress, saying he had purchased seats for "Richelieu," and asking Mr. Stanford to send him a copy of "Shamela" in large print, so that he and his wife could read the play before going to the theatre.

THE CANAL PROJECT.

Opinions by a Person Who Knows the Lay of the Land.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—Francis W. Rice, for many years United States Consul at Aspinwall, to which post he was appointed by President Lincoln, has contributed to the Boston Herald a chapter on interoceanic canal literature. Mr. Rice says the Panama route, in contrast with the Nicaragua route, would be 800 to 700 miles nearer to the great cities and the rich trade of the South Pacific, comprising Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and Chili, while the facilities the canal at Panama would give to the immense Magdalena and Colombia coasts, trade on both oceans, that would centre at Panama and Aspinwall for all parts of the world, would more than overbalance the opening up of a small portion of Nicaragua, and the little gain in distance to and from the ports of Guatemala, Honduras, and Salvador. Costa Rica could not be much affected by the choice of the other route. The Panama route would have deep, safe harbors on both sides by placing a slight breakwater at Aspinwall. The Panama Railroad, immediately alongside of which the canal would be cut, would immensely add to the facility with which the work could be conducted, and it would not take half the time to complete it. That would be only forty miles of towage for sailing vessels over Panama, against 185 miles over the Nicaragua route,—an immense difference in favor of the Panama route in the expense of the project. Mr. Rice adds that if the canal is not made on the proposed route of De Lesseps, it will be made, he thinks, over a still shorter one,—the San Blas route in the neighborhood of the City of Panama. It is straight line by this route is thirty-five miles long, three miles shorter than the Panama. Mr. Rice apprehends that New York City, as a great commercial center, and one being constructed, the Western cities might challenge the route east for the direct shipping traffic of the trade east of the Rocky Mountains.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—Another vote will be taken at the Produce Exchange on the question of adopting the central system.

St. Louis, Dec. 4.—Mrs. Alice Dornbrough, who has been in jail at Belleville, Ill., the past two months on a charge of poisoning her husband about a year ago, was discharged to-day. Dr. Dean, of this city, who suspected her husband's stomach to be chemical analysis, having reported that he could find no evidence of poison in that organ.

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—The National Association of Flour-Sack Manufacturers in session here to-day decided to advance the price of paper flour sacks \$2.50 per thousand.

THE DETROIT LIEB CASE.

DETROIT, Dec. 4.—The arrest of ex-Mayor W. W. Whiston, an account of which was telegraphed Saturday, was followed to-day by the arrest of Luther Beecher on a charge in a libel suit begun against the latter by Whiston. This action is based upon an article which Beecher recently caused to be published in the

Post and Tribune reflecting upon Whiston, the substance of which was subversive of his reputation. Whiston also alleges that his arrest was instigated by Beecher; that it is not for embitterment, but simply to recover a sum of money alleged to belong to

Miss Robinson, of Green Castle, Pa., from him as trustee of the estate of David Williams; that the funds were not held in trust, but the amount involved was merely unsettled accounts extending through several years, and, if the case ever comes to trial, he will be enabled to give a full account of his stewardship.

Teacher John Cava, in the sum of \$300 with ex-Gov. Bazley and James F. Joy as sureties. More suits are likely to follow, and the fight is anticipated by the fact that the litigants are brothers-in-law.

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